

Remarks

Receipt is acknowledged of the Office Action mailed August 27, 2004. Claims 1-19 are allowed. No amendments have been made to claims 1-19 by way of this Amendment & Reply. Thus, claims 1-19 remain in condition for allowance.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for consideration of the IDS filed on October 30, 2003, and for acknowledging receipt of the priority documentation in the pending application.

In the Drawings

Figures 4-6 stand objected to as requiring a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. Figures 4-6 have been amended to include this legend. No new matter has been introduced. Withdrawal of the objection to Figures 4-6 is solicited.

In the Abstract

The Abstract stands objected to for exceeding 150 words in length. A new Abstract which does not exceed 150 words in length is provided for substitution. No new matter has been introduced. Withdrawal of the objection to the Abstract is solicited.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that all objections and rejections be withdrawn and that a notice of allowance be forthcoming. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned for any reason related to the advancement of this case.

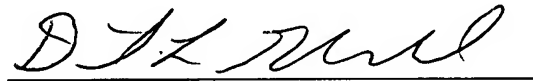
The Commissioner is authorized to credit any over payment or charge any deficient to deposit account number 08-1641.

Respectfully submitted,

HELLER EHRMAN WHITE & McAULIFFE LLP

Date: October 26, 2004

By:



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In the Drawings:

Applicant submits herewith replacement Figures 4-6, amended to include the legend
--Prior Art-- as requested by the Examiner in the Office Action dated August 27, 2004.